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*Smallpox in Greenwood, Miss.*GREENWOOD, MISS., *February 21, 1900.*

SIR: Statement of smallpox situation here is as follows: Negro population, 1,448; white population, 1,300. Total number of cases to date, negroes, 484; white, 23. Total number of deaths to date, negroes, 12; white, 3. Total number of vaccinations, 2,681. Variolous cases previously vaccinated, 311. Mortality rate, white, 13 per cent; negroes, 2½ per cent. Percentage of negro population who have had smallpox, 33½. Percentage vaccinated previously, 64.

Respectfully,

D. S. HUMPHREYS,
*City Health Officer.**Smallpox in West Virginia—Quarantine and mail service.*WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 15, 1900.*

SIR: The situation regarding the alleged epidemic of smallpox in the State of West Virginia has assumed such proportions as to make it appear that this office is warranted in acquainting you with such facts as have come to its attention, it further appearing that this Department will be compelled to call upon you for assistance to allay the alarm felt by the people, and to secure permission of local quarantine boards to permit of the forwarding of mails which have been properly disinfected.

Some two weeks ago reports began to reach this office of the prevalence of the alleged smallpox in the counties of Calhoun, Ritchie, and Gilmer, all interior counties. Strict quarantine regulations were established in all of these counties, which have their mail supply almost altogether from star routes. At some points the carriers were not permitted to travel at all, and the quarantine was particularly rigid at Smithville, in Ritchie County, a junction of two of the most important star routes in the State, and where a large amount of mail is transferred. This Department has made every effort, by fumigation and otherwise, to quiet the alarm and permit the mails to go through, with the result that the quarantine at Smithville was raised some days ago, and the counties of Calhoun and Ritchie are now giving very little trouble; however, the excitement has grown to large proportions in the counties of Gilmer, Lewis, Upshur, and Webster, and to a lesser degree in Braxton. The alarm appears to be greatest regarding the county of Upshur, and particularly the town of Buckhannon, which is the county seat. The city of Elkins, in Randolph County, on the 10th instant, established a quarantine, the order concerning which reads as follows:

SMALLPOX—ORDER OF BOARD OF HEALTH.

FEBRUARY 9, 1900.

Whereas, the board of health of the city of Elkins is advised that smallpox prevails in many communities in dangerous proximity to this city, and deems it highly important that the disease be prevented from reaching this city.

Therefore, it is ordered by said board of health that from and after this date until the further order of this board, no person from the counties of Gilmer, Lewis, Harrison, Calhoun, or Fayette, in this State, or from the town of Buckhannon, in the county of Upshur, or the town of Camden-on-the-Gauley, in Webster County, in this State, shall come into or pass through the city of Elkins;

That no goods or merchandise, by any conveyance whatever, shall be brought into or taken through said city of Elkins from any place or territory above mentioned;

That no person now within the corporate limits of said city of Elkins shall visit any of the places or counties above mentioned and thereafter return to said city of Elkins;

That all communication, except by telephone or telegraph, is prohibited by persons

now in the city of Elkins with persons in the counties or places aforesaid, or any other place known to be infected with smallpox.

That all railroads or other common carriers are forbidden to convey passengers, letters, or packages from any of the counties or places herein mentioned, into or through said city of Elkins.

A. S. BOSWORTH, M. D.,
President Board of Health for city of Elkins.

F. J. TRIPLETT,
Secretary Pro Tem.

MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION.

FEBRUARY 10, 1900.

As mayor of the city of Elkins, I indorse the foregoing action of the board of health for said city, and ask all law-abiding citizens to assist in enforcing the same, to the end that this city may escape the dread scourge. The sergeant is hereby instructed to enforce these orders of the board of health and to summon to his assistance all necessary aid.

J. C. IRONS,
Mayor.

We are this morning in receipt of a copy of the quarantine proclamation issued at Clarksburg, in Harrison County. This is an important place upon the main line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, from which the railroads supplying the interior section referred to all emanate. The order reads as follows:

PROCLAMATION.

CLARKSBURG, W. VA., *February 12, 1900.*

It is ordered by the board of health of Harrison County that on account of smallpox prevailing in the town of Buckhannon and county of Upshur, in the State of West Virginia, quarantine is hereby declared against all persons coming from said town and county who would be likely to carry said disease, or spread such disease or infection, and against shipment by rail, or in any other manner, of all household goods, clothing, or any other articles, except lumber and coal by rail, from said town or county into Harrison County. The West Virginia and Pittsburg division of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad is hereby enjoined from selling tickets from all points in said Upshur County to any point in Harrison County, and from shipment of such articles as are above prohibited during the existence of said quarantine. Citizens of Harrison County are hereby notified that they are prohibited from going into said Upshur County while this quarantine prevails. United States postal clerks and mail carriers are also advised that they receive no mail matter of any character from any point in said Upshur County for delivery to any point in the county of Harrison so long as this

QUARANTINE PREVAILS.

Citizens of Harrison County living on the various roads or highways leading into this county from said Upshur County, are hereby appointed and constituted special guards, or policemen, and are hereby authorized to let no one pass back or forth from one county to the other during the prevalence of said quarantine. And should any one refuse to obey this order, you will at once arrest such offender and commit him to the nearest justice of the peace.

Done by the Harrison County board of health this 12th day of February, 1900.

Upon receipt of the foregoing and numerous letters from postmasters in the counties directly interested, instructions were promptly sent to all the offices involved, that mails be properly disinfected and forwarded. A telegram was also sent to Dr. C. B. Brubaugh, president of the State board of health, Parkersburg, W. Va., on the morning of the 14th instant, requesting him to give assurance to infected districts that disinfection of the mails will remove danger, and calling attention to the great inconvenience caused the public by rigid quarantine regulations. We also instructed the postmaster at Clarksburg to confer with the local board of health with a view to having mails properly

disinfected and forwarded. These precautions, however, do not seem to have had the effect desired, and it has, therefore, been deemed wise to acquaint you with the situation in the hope that you can see your way clear to advise State Health Officer Brubaugh, and the health officers at Clarksburg, Buckhannon, and Elkins, that there is no danger to be apprehended from mails which have been fumigated as directed by the Department. It is believed that such instructions issued from your office will have very much greater force than those emanating from other sources, and it is hoped you can take such action to-day.

As a matter of further information I quote you a telegram received from one of the West Virginia towns in the section indicated on the 12th instant, and which was signed by 8 business men.

CAMDEN-ON-GAULEY, W. VA.

Postmaster-General Smith, Washington, D. C.

Railroad officials have annulled mail train on account of a disease not at all dangerous. Hundreds of cases over the county, and only 1 death, and it was diseased in other ways. Action of officials generally condemned by all the people. Action entirely unnecessary and unofficial. Please send official here to investigate disease called chicken pox by many doctors.

We were also yesterday in receipt of a telegram from the postmaster at Marlinton, Pocahontas County, W. Va., which indicates that quarantine has been established in the counties of Pocahontas and Greenbrier, which are adjacent to and supplied by the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, and in this case the postmaster at White Sulphur Springs has been advised to confer with the local board of health in order to bring about necessary disinfection.

There is no question but that an unusual degree of unrest and alarm prevails throughout a large section of the State of West Virginia, no matter whether it is warranted or not; hence, the action by this office in advising you of all facts which may come to its notice, so that you may be enabled to act in whatever way may seem best for the public good.

Respectfully,

JAMES P. WHITE,
General Superintendent.